Grade 4 Sample Test Prompt

Word Choice

We all have things that we believe are exciting. Think of something you have done that was exciting to you. It might be winning a ball game, getting a new pet, or riding a bike.

Write a story about a time when you felt excited.

Your essay should

- Have a beginning, middle, and end.
- Describe the exciting experience.
- Include details about the experience.

Remember to edit for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

AIMS Six Trait Analytic Writing Rubric – Official Scoring Guide WORD CHOICE

6

Words convey the intended message in an exceptionally interesting, precise, and natural way appropriate to audience and purpose. The writer employs a rich, broad range of words, which have been carefully chosen and thoughtfully placed for impact. The writing is characterized by

- accurate, strong, specific words; powerful words energize the writing.
- fresh, original expression; slang, if used, seems purposeful and is effective.
- vocabulary that is striking and varied, but that is natural and not overdone.
- ordinary words used in an unusual way.
- words that evoke strong images; figurative language may be used.

5

Words convey the intended message in an interesting, precise, and natural way appropriate to audience and purpose. The writer employs a broad range of words which have been carefully chosen and thoughtfully placed for impact. The writing is characterized by

- accurate, specific words; word choices energize the writing.
- fresh, vivid expression; slang, if used, seems purposeful and is effective.
- vocabulary that may be striking and varied, but that is natural and not overdone.
- ordinary words used in an unusual way.
- words that evoke clear images; figurative language may be used.

4

Words effectively convey the intended message. The writer employs a variety of words that are functional and appropriate to audience and purpose. The writing is characterized by

- words that work but do not particularly energize the writing.
- expression that is functional; however, slang, if used, does not seem purposeful and is not particularly effective.
- attempts at colorful language that may occasionally seem overdone.
- occasional overuse of technical language or jargon.
- rare experiments with language; however, the writing may have some fine moments and generally avoids clichés.

3

Language is quite ordinary, lacking interest, precision and variety, or may be inappropriate to audience and purpose in places. The writer does not employ a variety of words, producing a sort of "generic" paper filled with familiar words and phrases. The writing is characterized by

- words that work, but that rarely capture the reader's interest.
- expression that seems mundane and general; slang, if used, does not seem purposeful and is not effective.
- attempts at colorful language that seem overdone or forced.
- words that are accurate for the most part, although misused words may occasionally appear, technical language or jargon may be overused or inappropriately used.
- reliance on clichés and overused expressions.

2

Language is monotonous and/or misused, detracting from the meaning and impact. The writing is characterized by

- words that are colorless, flat or imprecise.
- monotonous repetition or overwhelming reliance on worn expressions that repeatedly distract from the message.
- images that are fuzzy or absent altogether.

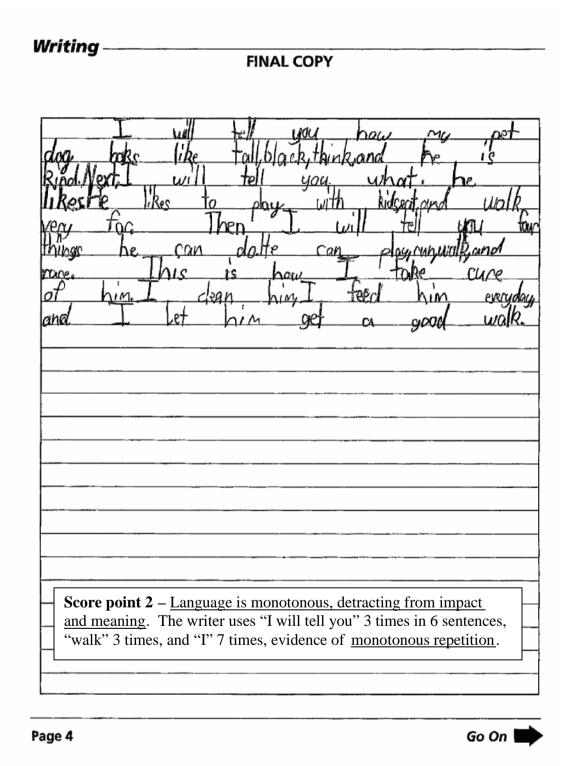
1

The writing shows an extremely limited vocabulary or is so filled with misuses of words that the meaning is obscured. Only the most general kind of message is communicated because of vague or imprecise language. The writing is characterized by

- general, vague words that fail to communicate.
- an extremely limited range of words.
- words that simply do not fit the text; they seem imprecise, inadequate, or just plain wrong.

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Writing FINAL COPY			
Hi My Namy 18 lucky. My Day the Big Dag is Color is red on Play is Socrer. My brother is Play is the ball. My brother is cat my pag Is on eat My brother little Play on the			
Score point 1 – Only the most general kind of message is communicated because of vague and imprecise language. The writing shows an extremely limited vocabulary.			
age 4 Go On			



Writing	ŗ

FINAL COPY

First thing is I was moving from Organ to
Arizona and we had my cat Tigger in
the car with us and he wouldn't eat his own
food he would begg for ours. He was the only
cat we had with us. Some times when we would
go to sleep he would to and some times he didn't
he would just go to sleep on us. Some times Tigger
would play with w. And we would play the cariet game
and win like a soda or a pack of bubble gurs. And
we went to sast food places. And we would go to
rest stops and stores and we slept in our car. And
only went to two motols.

Score point 3 – <u>Language is quite ordinary and lacks precision</u>. <u>Expression seems mundane and general</u>. <u>Words work, but rarely capture the reader's interest</u>. Action verbs are missing and only a few modifiers are used to take the paper beyond the "generic" paper filled with familiar words and phrases.

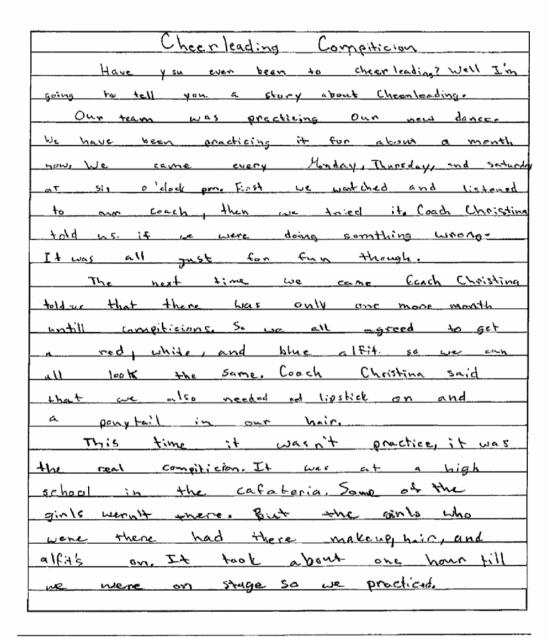
Page 4

Go On



Writing

FINAL COPY



Page 4

Go On



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FINAL COPY

We felt proudy but nervous to.
Figurely were up. we felt like we
were formons doing our dance we felt so
proud. We did our dance then they did the oudging.
Now the traphies were going to be handed
out. It went in order. Third goes to
Coach Mandy! second poes to Coach Christina) Yes's
We were all shappy. Then avery body got
a medal It was the exciting days of my.
life.
Score point 4 – Words effectively convey the intended message. The writer employs a variety of words that are functional and appropriate to audience and purpose. There are rare experiments with language; however, the writing may have some fine moments. For instance, "This time it wasn't practice, it was the real competition" stands out and does energize the writing.

Page 5



Writing

FINAL COPY

One day, my dad and I were watching t.V., when the phone range
I anwsered it and to my surprise it was Rich. I gave the
phone to my ded. He told me I was going to sub for Rich's team.
I was so excited I jumped right out of my shoes.
When my man got home, I told her all about it. She didn't
belive it. So she asked my dad. He told her it was true.
Then she bugged me so tight I turned blue.
At the game I plan right and lest field. I always hit last
Even time I got up to but, I got on base But in the 2nd
inning Noelle got hurt. We were very deprest.
In the last inning there was I out bases loaded and
I was up to bat. Woosh, Woosh, to strikes went by. Then bong!
I hit the ball right over the first baseman's head. I want
to 1st, 2nd, and stopped at 3rd, I ast 3 runs.
We lost by 2 runs, but I did really good After our cheer,
Rich asked to be on the team. My dad said "Ves." I was
So excited I told everyone. My family was so happy for me.
They were proud to because I was the only 9 year of
Playing with 12 and 13 year olds. It was The best day
ever!
Sincerly,

Score point 5 – The writer employs a broad range of words which have been carefully chosen and thoughtfully placed for impact. The writer involves the reader with words and phrases such as "Woosh, Woosh," "Then bang!" and the multiple underlining of "only" and "ever." These words evoke clear images.

Writing-

FINAL COPY

A couple of years ago when I was eight I wont to Hawaii. When
we got off the plain ride I did it know where I was the
Smell was amazing. I could not believe it! We finally, got to
the botel It had flammingos in the lobby.
The next day I wate up and looked outside everything
was unique. We all went outside to look at it in the
daylight it was spectacular. The pool had a waterslide. We went
down it a to of times. I started to see gecos on the
walls and trees by the end of the trip I found 110
gegos! We bought intertubes and went to the beach. We would
Sit there and the waves would push us up shore. That
night when we are dinher I thought I was in
heaven.
The next morning we woke up early
to go Snorkelling. We strolled down the road to the
spot. I dove under the water every where I
turned there was a new animal. We saw every
Color of the rainbow under the sea. I loved
it! I felt like a new born baby just opening
my eyes to a new world. I turned around
and bom there was a sea turtle! It was
so gracefull. I was not even scaind of us. It
was amazing. I never thought that I would
ever see a sea turtle swimming right next to me.
<u> </u>

Page 4

Go On



Writing

FINAL COPY

It started to swim away after a while Bam there
was an sel looking up at me I was a little
frightend but amused.
This was very exited I want to go
This was very exited I want to go back soon. I felt like I had died and gone to heaven! I think that it is the best vacation ever
I think that it is the Last vacation ever
TPI-PIN TOWN TO SEE THE SEE TH
Same noint 6. Words convey the intended message in an executionally
Score point 6 – Words convey the intended message in an exceptionally interesting, precise, and natural way. The writer uses vocabulary that is striking
and varied, but that is natural and not overdone. Words and phrases such as
"unique," "spectacular," "strolled," "I felt like a new born baby just opening my eyes to a new world," and "frightened but amused" are examples of <u>fresh</u> ,
original expression. These and other words evoke strong images.

Page 5

